

March 19, 2018

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Bayou Lafourche Fresh Water District was held on Monday, March 19, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. at the Water District office, 1016 St. Mary Street, Thibodaux, LA

Present were: Hugh Caffery, Chairman
Gene Harrell, Vice-Chairman
Greg Nolan, Secretary/Treasurer
Eli Miles, Jr.
Jake Giardina

Donald Schwab
Francis Richard
Ray Mayet
Lance Authement
Chris Domangue

Absent: Scott LeBlanc

Also present: Dan Grandal, Stantec; Eric Dallimore, Stantec; Stevie Smith, All South Consulting
Ryan Perque, FOBL, John Lafargue, FOBL; Henry Templet; Hattie Templet
David Boudreaux; Josh Bordelon; Robert Mire; Nick Porto; Jerry Waguespack
Barry Marionneaux, Attorney; Ben Malbrough, Executive Director
Jana Langley, Administrative Assistant

Moved by Commissioner Ray Mayet, seconded by Commissioner Francis Richard to dispense with the reading of the minutes, and approve the minutes of February 19, 2018. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Commissioner Ray Mayet, seconded by Commissioner Eli Miles, Jr. to approve the accounts payable for February. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Commissioner Chris Domangue, seconded by Commissioner Lance Authement to approve the finance report for February. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Ben Malbrough advised that we are pumping for free, and everything is operating as normal. He reported that the bayou crew is working in conjunction with Lafourche parish in cleaning up the stretch under Hwy. 90. We have been getting good feedback. Mr. Malbrough stated that ultimately the parish has a plan to put up a building on the bayou side.

Mr. Malbrough requested to amend the agenda to include an item to adopt a Resolution to enter into a purchase agreement to purchase immovable property to build a water control structure.

Moved by Commissioner Ray Mayet, seconded by Commissioner Jake Giardina and unanimously approved to deviate from the agenda, and amend the agenda by two-thirds vote to include adopting a Resolution regarding entering into a purchasing agreement to purchase property for a water control structure.

Moved by Commissioner Jake Giardina, seconded by Vice-Chairman Gene Harrell and unanimously approved to adopt a Resolution to negotiate for and enter into a purchase agreement to purchase immovable property on LA Hwy. 1 and/or LA Hwy 308 between Labadieville and the Cancienne Canal for purposes of building a water control structure. The property will not be more than five acres, and the purchase price of the property shall be no greater than its appraised value.

Mr. Malbrough advised that he included in the meeting documents that were e-mailed to the Board the proposal from Stantec for an amount not to exceed \$1,107,631.00 to take the Pump Capacity Improvements Project to 60% design. We are projecting the engineering fees to be between 5 ½% - 10% of construction.

Moved by Commissioner Lance Authement, seconded by Commissioner Jake Giardina to approve the proposal from Stantec to take the Pump Capacity Improvements Project to 60% design for time and materials not to exceed \$1,107,631.00. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Malbrough reported that we finally got our Corps of Engineers permit for the Donaldsonville Drainage Project, and we are now ready to take the project to construction. He stated that the session is back in now, and there is some sense of urgency to get this project moving. We have not drawn down any money allocated to us as of the end of last year through capital outlay.

Mr. Malbrough asked for authority to enter into a right-of-way agreement with the City of Donaldsonville for the footprint of the pump station on the north side of the railroad tracks that fall on their property. He stated that this pump station would prevent us from having to shut down our main pump station every time it rains. Mr. Malbrough explained that the bayou physically comes onto Hwy. 308 when it rains.

Commissioner Jake Giardina asked if we could possibly see if the parish would maintain the pump station after construction. Mr. Malbrough stated that he would check with the West Ascension Drainage District regarding taking over the maintenance of the pump station after construction.

Moved by Commissioner Francis Richard, seconded by Vice-Chairman Gene Harrell and unanimously approved authorize Barry Marionneaux and Ben Malbrough to a execute right-of-way agreement with the City of Donaldsonville for the north pump station facility.

Moved by Commissioner Eli Miles, Jr., seconded by Commissioner Chris Domangue and unanimously approved to authorize to Ben Malbrough to put the Donaldsonville Drainage Project out for bid for construction. Mr. Malbrough is also authorized to talk with the parish and the city regarding the ownership, operation, and maintenance ongoing of the pump station.

Moved by Commissioner Jake Giardina, seconded by Commissioner Eli Miles, Jr. to approve the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the City of Donaldsonville to take over the Donaldsonville boat launch and property after the Bayou Lafourche Fresh Water District makes the necessary repairs to the boat launch. The District will still have access for use of the boat launch and property. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Ray Mayet read the millage resolution for the parishes of Lafourche, Assumption, and Ascension for the rate of 2.03 mills tax year 2018. Chairman Hugh Caffery asked for any comments, and there were none.

Moved by Commissioner Ray Mayet, seconded by Vice-Chairman Gene Harrell and unanimously approved to adopt the Resolution for the millage rate of 2.03 mills for the Parishes of Lafourche, Assumption, and Ascension for tax year 2018.

Commissioner Ray Mayet read the millage resolution for the parish of Terrebonne for the rate of 2.06 mills for tax year 2018. Chairman Hugh Caffery asked for any comments, and there were none.

Moved by Commissioner Ray Mayet, seconded by Commissioner Donald Schwab and unanimously approved to adopt the Resolution for the millage rate of 2.06 mills for the Parish of Terrebonne for tax year 2018.

Mr. Ryan Perque gave an update on the Friends of Bayou Lafourche as follows:

- St. Patrick's Day on the Bayou hosted by Friends of Bayou Lafourche took place this past Saturday in downtown Thibodaux, and it was a huge success. They had several dozen people participate in the different paddle races. They had a one mile, three mile, and cardboard and duct tape boat races.

- The people who came to the social area after the races totaled about 1000. They received a ton of positive feedback, and a lot of people are very excited to get involved next year.
- Ben Malbrough and Ben Caillouet, by default, were the only tandem team to enter that race so they won the award for that race.
- They had three goals for the St. Patrick's Day event, which were to increase awareness for Friends of Bayou Lafourche, increase the opportunity for recreational activities, and to serve as a fundraising venue for Friends of Bayou Lafourche. All three goals were accomplished.
- They have some preliminary conversations with some grant sources in the Donaldsonville area.
- The Nicholls project is signed with the design firm. We are going to have the first planning meeting later this month, or early next month to begin discussions on what will take place at the Nicholls park.
- We are getting some information on a tract of property in Lockport, which could be a huge asset to that area to increase the motorized, and non-motorized boat use in that region.
- Ryan Perque advised that he appreciates the ongoing support. Ben, Josh, and the rest of the bayou crew were very helpful in accommodating some of the needs they had to make this past weekend event a success. He thanked everyone for their continued support.

Chairman Hugh Caffery reminded the Board of the Tier 2.1 Financial Disclosure form that needs to be completed.

Mr. Malbrough stated that he received a call from Lafourche Parish Government, and the administration wants to move forward on the derelict vessel removal project that they have identified. The Bayou Lafourche Fresh Water District had budgeted \$50,000 last year, and carried that forward in the budget this year to assist in the removal of derelict vessels in the bayou. We are going to combine that with Lafourche Parish's allocation of \$200,000. They asked if we would take the lead and manage the program, which Mr. Malbrough stated that he does not have an issue with. There are some environmental issues that would need to be addressed. We would have to bid it out because of the cost.

Commissioner Lance Authement advised that Terrebonne Parish has a vessel removal program, and it is looking really good.

Chairman Hugh Caffery advised that there is no executive session today.

Chairman Hugh Caffery asked for any public comments. Mr. Henry Templet stated that the event Saturday was good, and it will only get better. Mr. John Lafargue advised that they had great volunteers. He stated that Chris Domangue and his wife and children came out. Several of the Friends board members attended.

Moved by Commissioner Jake Giardina, seconded by Commissioner Francis Richard and unanimously approved the meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Hugh Caffery, Chairman

Greg Nolan, Secretary/Treasurer

